SPORTS

After Ryan, Collins earn league honors, Winchester High girls basketball begins postseason Saturday in Worcester

JOE MCCONNELL | SPORTS EDITOR

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Winchester High girls basketball freshman sensation Carolyn Collins throws up another two points during a game against Arlington on Jan. 23, and just one month later Collins was awarded for her fine play this year by making the All-Middlesex League team to go along with being chosen for the all-star squad. COU PHOTO/MICHAEL PESCATORE

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After digging out from the Blizzard of 2026, the Winchester High girls basketball team (13-8, 28th seed) still has a few days to prepare for its Division 1 Round of 32 state tournament game against host South High Community School (17-3, fifth seed).

It will be played at the Worcester school on Saturday, Feb. 28, at 1 p.m. South High plays in the Central Massachusetts Athletic Conference during the regular season.

Coach Sam Mosley's team won 13 games this year in arguably one of the most competitive leagues in the state. The Red & Black are always battle-tested after going up against these Middlesex League schools, something that their state peers know all too well over the years.

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Winchester High girls basketball senior captain Catherine Ryan, watching her shot head to the basket during a game against Arlington on Jan. 23, has since been chosen to the Middlesex League all-star team. COURTESY PHOTO/MICHAEL PESCATORE

To end the regular season with double digit wins can only be attributed to a talented roster of veterans and youth, and they were awarded fo

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skills with two all-star nominations, a first for the program since the 2021-22 campaign.

Senior captain Catherine Ryan made the Middlesex League all-star team after averaging seven rebounds and 8.1 points per game. She also shot 67% from the free throw line.

“Her leadership on and off the court is the reason why she was selected as an all-star,” said Mosley. “She is a dominant force under the basket at both ends of the court. We are proud of what she has accomplished in not only this season, but throughout her entire high school career.”

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The future also appears to be bright for the program with the emergence of freshman Carolyn Collins, whose consistent exemplary play didn’t go unnoticed among the league coaches. They voted her to the All-League team, which consists of the five best players in the league. They also selected her to the all-star team.

During the regular season, Collins averaged 13.3 points, 7 rebounds, 2.5 assists and 3.2 steals per game, prompting these laudable sentiments by her coach.

“Carolyn has had a great first year on the team, and is looking to build upon (that success),” said Mosley. “She approaches every game with tenacity, and is always looking for the win. She just loves to (put up points), but as the season progressed, she expanded her game on both sides of the ball. (As an example), her long wingspan came in handy to break the record for most blocks in a game (eight against Lexington). Her ability to also spread the (offense) allows her teammates to get better looks basket. I’m excited to see how she’s going to build on this start.”

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Mosley says she is beyond proud of the hard work that both these players have put in this year to help the program get back on track after last season.

“Their (Ryan and Collins) hard work and dedication have been a difference maker this year, and we now look forward to carrying that momentum into the postseason (that starts again on Saturday in Worcester),” the coach added.

Joe McConnell is a longtime, award-winning sports editor for numerous North Shore publications. He began covering Winchester sports for the News in November 2024 and is currently its Sports Editor. He can be reached at editor@winchesternews.org.

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Winchester boys basketball heads to Bridgewater-Raynham for Sweet 16 game after beating Lexington in postseason opener

It was the third meeting this year between Middlesex League boys basketball rivals Lexington (16-5, 11th seed) and Winchester (17-4, 22nd seed). They split the first two during the regular season, thus making this Round of 32 postseason matchup the impromptu rubber game of this year's series, with the

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Winchester wrestling enjoys Top 10 finish at state divisional meet; senior captains move on to All-States

After the Winchester High qualified wrestlers competed hard over two days last weekend (Feb. 20, 21) in the State Division 1 Meet at North Andover High School, Mother Nature gave them a break to rest and recuperate with Monday's blizzard that resulted in two days off from school. There

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Winchester boys hockey advances to the Sweet 16 after beating Wachusett in the tournament opener

The Winchester High boys hockey team (12-9-2), the 17th seed, edged the 16th-seeded Wachusett Regional Mountaineers (18-2-1), 5-4 in a Round of 32 Division 1 state tournament game at Westborough's Northstar Ice Arena on Feb. 25. The Red & Black will now take on top seed Catholic Memorial (18-2-1)

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SPORTS

With postseason starting Friday night, WHS boys hoop seniors English, Sarpong, Burbine join Middlesex League elite

The Winchester High boys basketball team, the 22nd seed, will take on Middlesex League rival Lexington, the 11th seed, to begin the Division 1 state tournament in the Round of 32 on Friday night, Feb. 27, starting at 6 p.m. These teams are so evenly matched, beginning with the

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Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

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stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
March 4, 2026

Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

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